

07-28-06

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	10/717225
		Filing Date	November 19, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Hiromasa Tanobe
		Art Unit	N/A
		Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	5259-000034/US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
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<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	Return Receipt Postcard; PTO Form SB/08; 4 cited references; copy of European Search Report
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<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.	

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.		
Signature			
Printed name	Gregory A. Stobbs		
Date	July 27, 2006	Reg. No.	28,764

Express Mail Label No. EV 855 009 567 US (7/27/2006) Dated: July 27, 2006

EV 855 009 567 US



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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

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Remarks The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.		

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Signature			
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Docket No.: 5259-000034/US
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Patent Application of:
Hiromasa Tanobe et al.

Application No.: 10/717225

Filed: November 19, 2003

Art Unit: N/A

For: Optical Communication System

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language reference is enclosed.

Applicant has not submitted copies of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application as required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), amended October 2004, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has waived this requirement for all U.S. patent applications.

Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign and non-patents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is given as follows: The references were cited in the European Search Report for the corresponding foreign application, a copy of which is attached.


In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 08-0750, under Order No. 5259-000034/US.

Dated: July 27, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Gregory A. Stobbs

Registration No.: 28,764

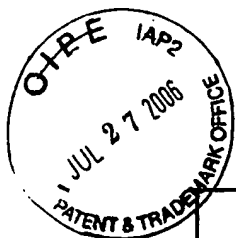
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PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/717225
				Filing Date	November 19, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Hiromasa Tanobe
				Art Unit	N/A
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned				
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	5259-000034/US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	JP-2000-201112	07-18-2000	Suzuki, et al.		√

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	CA	Chang-Joon Chae, et al., "A Protected Optical Star-Shaped Ring Network Using an NxN Arrayed Waveguide Grating and Incoherent Light Sources", IEEE Photonics Technology Letters, Vol. 13, No. 8, August 2001, 3 pages.	
	CB	Charles A. Brackett, "Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing Networks: Principles and Applications", IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications, Vol., 8, No. 6, August 1990, 17 pages.	
	CC	Mansour I. Irshid, et al., "A WDM Cross-Connected Star Topology for Multihop Lightwave Networks", Journal of Lightwave Technology, Vol. 10, No. 6, June 1992, 8 pages.	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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GAS/vim